This Issue of the A. F. of L. Weekly News Service Consists of 2 Pages

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 20, 1913, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

Nothing is more terrible than to see ignorance in action.—Goethe.

WHOLE NO. 1473 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1939. | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary-Treasurer | VOL. 29, NO. 27

FACING the FACTS

With PHILIP PEARL

It never pays to argue with a zealot because the fanatical mind isn't open to reason. This holds especially true of the extremists in the C. I. O.

But we number among our friends some well-meaning liberals who sincerely believe that the C. I. O. is a good thing for labor. Their knowledge of the labor movement is not fundamental but based on hearsay and impressions. They just have a feeling, cultivated by assiduous C. I. O. propaganda, that the John L. Lewis rebellionists are motivated by progressive idealism and this feeling has been heightened by the dramatic and spectacular fumadiddles of the C. I. O.

Well, we want to address ourselves today to these friends of ours just because they are liberal-minded, because they are well-meaning and because they are amenable to reason. We think we can show them the light.

Just about a year ago the nation's attention was centered on the 1938 political campaigns. The C. I. O., always boastful of its alleged political power, was raising quite an uproar. Through its alter ego, Labor's Non-Partisan League, it made a great to-do about blacklisting candidates and defeating the "enemies of labor" and so on.

But, strangely enough, John L. Lewis personally was as silent as a tomb. He gave his personal endorsement to only one candidate, the secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers, who ran for the Democratic nomination for Governor in Pennsylvania.

There's the Rub

Now if the C. I. O. has any political following in any State it should have it in Pennsylvania because the miners' vote is so considerable there. One would have thought that Lewis would invade the State and make stump speeches in every town and hamlet in favor of his protege. But he didn't. He stayed away from Pennsylvania altogether. And his candidate lost anyhow.

Of course, the practical politicians were hoping that Lewis would come into Pennsylvania. They knew—and their knowledge has been confirmed by the Gallup polls—how unpopular Lewis is with the great mass of voters in this country. The fact that he decided not to take any personal part in the Pennsylvania campaign proved that Lewis knew it too.

There's the rub. Here we have a man astute enough to realize the public dislikes him so intensely that it will vote against a candidate he openly favors and for a candidate he openly opposes. And yet this man presumes to become the leader of organized labor in the nation.

Is that idealism? How can a man who realizes that he has forfeited public confidence believe he can help working men and women of this country by continuing as their leader? How can a man so thoroughly and widely hated by the American people believe there is any hope of success for a rebel movement in organized labor which bears the stigma of his leadership?

All of which brings up two more questions. Does Lewis care one whit about helping the working men and women whom he presumes to represent? Has he any interest in the labor movement other than his personal power and glory?

Seek and Ye Shall Find

We strongly urge our liberal friends to seek the answers to these questions. And we wish to remind them that it has been axiomatic in the labor movement ever since its earliest days that its only hope of success rested upon the good will of the public.

We want our liberal friends to see the C. I. O. in its true light. We want them to be with us. We want them to understand the American Federation of Labor, its structure, its principles, its history and its future.

The American Federation of Labor is not fixed. It is more responsive to the changing will of the majority of its membership than any other democratic organization in the world. It is not exclusive. There is room for every worker in the United States in its ranks. It is not stand-pat. There is room for every shade of thought in its councils. It is certainly not conservative. For if you examine the record you will find that the American Federation of Labor has been in the thick of the fight for every liberal and progressive piece of legislation adopted in the last half-century.

Finally, despite C. I. O. propaganda to the contrary, the American Federation is not slow. You must remember that it is based on voluntarism. It cannot compel compliance of its own members. It must convince them of the right and depend upon the voluntary support of its members to achieve its goals.

This is the organization the C. I. O. has sought to wreck in the name of idealism. To those of our friends who fell for this C. I. O. bunk we recommend a perusal of Gompers' last message. We will quote but one paragraph in conclusion:

"No lasting gain has ever come from compulsion. If we seek to force, we but tear apart that which, united, is invincible. There is no way whereby our labor movement may be assured sustained progress in determining its policies and plans other than sincere democratic deliberation until a unanimous decision is reached. This may seem a cumbrous, slow method to the impatient, but the impatient are more concerned for immediate triumph than for the education of constructive development."

That is our answer to the rebels.

(Released by the American Federation of Labor Weekly News Service)

War Scare Delays International Shorter Hours for Coal Miners

Geneva Labor Conference Holds That Threatened Outbreak of Hostilities Between Many Nations Compels Postponment of Agreement to Reduce Length of Work Week for Underground Toilers.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The International Labor Conference at its recent meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, accepted, without a vote, a resolution providing for the suspension temporarily of further discussion on the question of the reduction of hours of work in coal mines.

Under the terms of the resolution the question will be referred back to the Governing Body of the International Labor Office with the suggestion that it be placed on the agenda of the Conference again "as soon as such action is warranted by an improvement in the international situation."

A. Ford Hinrichs, Government adviser of the United States and reporter of the Conference committee that considered the question of reduction of hours of work in coal mines, told the Conference that this action was not to be construed as a sanction to longer hours.

"The United States delegation supports the resolution as the best means of assuring a prompt reconsideration of the issue of the shorter work week in coal mines," he said. "No procedural difficulties should stand in the way of action on the workers' just demands, the moment the international situation permits.

"In coal a Convention on the shorter work week appears impossible of adoption this year, and, if adopted, there is no reason to believe it could become effective in the near future.

"On the other hand, the detailed consideration which is being given to the reduction of hours in road transport is evidence that the Coal Committee was not following merely a formula of the year.

"The International Labor Organization will never permit reaction, even in the face of a tragic choice between armaments and an improved standard of living, to establish its claim that all progress is impossible.

"We should recognize that the work of the Office in preparation for the Coal Convention was worth while. We have had before us the text of a Draft Convention covering a highly competitive industry, which technically is nearly ready for adoption. Even in our present and temporary defeat, then, there is real progress."

Mr. Hinrichs added that in supporting the resolution the Conference recognized that peace and social justice are indivisible.

"War, and preparation for war," he continued, "lay waste the resources that make possible substantial advance toward better conditions of life.

"Disarmament, and all that that implies, is the other side of the shield of social progress.

"Today a major proposal, namely shorter hours in coal mines, is temporarily defeated by forces of overwhelming magnitude outside this Conference.

"But precisely now, when nations are concerned with their existence from day to day, it may be the supreme function of the International Labor Organization to maintain the long and broad view. The sanction behind that long view is the force of the worker's need in all countries."

BILL REPORTED CUTTING D. OF C. FIREMEN'S DAY

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—The Senate Committee on the District of Columbia voted to report favorably a bill already passed by the House of Representatives to shorten working hours of District of Columbia firemen from 72 to 60 per week and the work week from six to five days.

It was estimated that the measure, which would not become operative until July 1, 1940, would require the addition of 207 firemen.

World Peace Parley Urged by Workers Delegates to Geneva Labor Conference

President Roosevelt Lauded for Efforts to Avert War and Solve by Pacific Methods the Problems That Underlie Strife Between Nations.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The Workers' Delegates of thirty-five free nations, assembled in Geneva, Switzerland, to attend the 1939 session of the International Labor Conference, adopted a strong resolution praising President Roosevelt for his untiring efforts to prevent war and approved his recommendation that a world conference be called to investigate problems that threaten the peace of the world with the object of finding just solutions without resort to force.

The text of the resolution follows:

"Whereas, working people throughout the world have a common interest of major importance in seeking a just and enduring solution of the economic and social problems which underlie the bitter rivalries now threatening to engulf the civilzed world in the futile chaos of war; and

"Whereas, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's recent message brought at least a temporary respite from impending strife and offered a real and rational avenue to peace and justice among the peoples of the world; and

"Whereas, The Workers' Delegates to the twenty-fifth session of the International Labor Conference, as representatives of the free peoples of the world, wish to avert any necessity of defending liberty and justice by shedding the blood of their innocent brothers in other nations, or of bankrupting the economic and social resources of civilization by a perpetual state of armed preparedness against aggression;

"Therefore, We, the representative delegates of the working people of thirty-five free nations, join solemnly in a unanimous proclamation to all the Governments of the world:

"1. That the working people of every nation whole-heartedly approve and are grateful for the intervention of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in averting, at least temporarily, the imminent disaster of a European conflict;

"2. That the working people of every nation sincerely urge the President of the United States to continue his efforts to bring about an honourable and enduring peace:

"3. That working people of every nation strongly urge all Governments to join in the international conference suggested by President Roosevelt for an honest investigation into, and constructive solution of, the economic difficulties, social problems and nationalistic rivalries which already are depriving hundreds of millions of people of their right to enjoy the fruits of civilization, and which, if not peaceably solved, may destroy the innocent people of many lands."

Disposition of Surplus Union-Canned California Peaches Aided by Labor

Added Efforts Are Necessary to Safeguard Interests of Union Members in 100 Canneries Covered by A. F. of L. Agreements; 60,000 Workers Involved.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

San Francisco, Calif.—Appreciation for the response of Labor to an appeal for assistance in disposing of a large surplus of California union-canned peaches was voiced by Edward D. Vandeleur, secretary of the California State Federation of Labor.

"The response to our appeal, made in the interest of more than 60,000 A. F. of L. cannery workers and other crafts directly or indirectly affected by our great canning industry, proves the willingness of members of organized labor to help their brothers and sisters, and Labor's power," Vandeleur said.

"To date we have received responses from numerous National and International Unions covering the entire United States pledging their aid, and direct from State, City central bodies or locals in 25 of the 48 States. In behalf of the workers involved in the industry, we extend thanks to all members of Labor for any assistance they have given or can give in this worthy cause.

"We still need all the help we can get, however," he added.

Vandeleur said that numerous groups had shown their interest by writing for a list of union-packed brands of California peaches.

"In response to such requests we have said that it was virtually impossible to provide a list of brands," Vandeleur said. "There are close to 100 canneries covered by our agreements. Many of them pack a score or more of brands for individual wholesale grocery firms in all parts of the country, as well as some nationally advertised brands. The list would therefore be too cumbersome.

"Therefore, it can be said that Trade Unionists are practically assured of buying union-canned peaches if they buy the California product, and we believe we have more thorough organization in this industry than any other peach area.

"The only firm on our official 'We Don't Patronize' List is the Pacific Grape Products Company of Modesto, whose featured brand of peaches is 'Southern Beauty' California cling peaches, but whose principal product is 'Dainty Mix' fruit salad."

R. E. Hesketh Dies; Was High Official Of Hotel and Restaurant Employes Union

Cincinnati, Ohio (AFLWNS).—Robert Bruce Hesketh, general secretary-treasurer of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America, died here July 3 at the age of 69.

Born in Lancashire, England, in 1870 of Scotch parentage, he came to the United States as a young man and was initiated as a member of Cooks and Waiters Union No. 1, Seattle, Wash., in 1889. During 1902 and 1903 he served as president of the Seattle Central Labor Council.

He was elected sixth vice president of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees' International Alliance and Bartenders' International League at the twelfth general convention held in Rochester, N. Y., in 1904. He succeeded Jere L. Sullivan as general secretary-treasurer of the International Union in 1928, and occupied that position continuously until the time of his death.

For many years Mr. Hesketh was active in the labor movement of Washington State, where he led a successful fight for the six-day week and the eight-hour day. He was elected to the Seattle City Council as a labor member in 1911 and re-elected six times; he was president of the city council four terms and acting mayor several months.

Workers Group at Geneva Labor Conference Condemns Invasion of China by Japanese

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The following declaration of sympathy for the people of China and condemnation of the war against China waged by the Government of Japan was adopted by the Labor Group attending the recent International Labor Conference at Geneva, Switzerland:

"The Workers' Delegates of thirty-five free nations and their technical advisers, attending the 1939 Session of the International Labor Conference, desire to express, on the occasion of their preliminary meeting, their sentiments of profound sympathy and solidarity with the working class and people of China, who for the past two years have defended with heroism and self-denial their liberties against Japanese aggression.

"The workers of the whole world are whole-heartedly with the valiant Chinese combatants. They are convinced that the enormous sacrifices being made by the Chinese people and especially by the workers and peasants of China, will not be in vain and that in the near future China will regain her independence and will liberate her territory from the Japanese aggressors, whom the workers of the world do not identify with the Japanese proletariat."

NEW D. OF C. BUILDING LABORERS WAGE SCALE

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—An arbitration decision by Howard T. Colvin, U. S. Labor Department conciliator, ended a controversy Local No. 74 of the International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers Union of America, an A. F. of L. affiliate, and the District of Columbia Master Builders Association and subcontractors.

The union called a strike on June 5 when employers rejected demands for an 80-cent scale for unskilled labor and a 95 cent scale for skilled labor. The union and the employers agreed to accept Mr. Colvin as conciliator and abide by his decision.

Mr. Colvin made the following award:

On all construction work contracted for on which bids were submitted prior to June 26, 1939, the present 70-cent-an-hour scale shall continue in effect until April 30, 1940.

On all work contracted for on and after June 26, the rate shall be 75 cents up to April 30, 1940.

On all work undertaken, regardless of contract date, after May 1, 1940, the wage scale shall be 80 cents an hour until April 30, 1941.

The decision made no distinction between unskilled and semi-skilled labor.

MACHINISTS SIGN 218 AGREEMENTS

Wage Increases and Other Union Benefits Feature Contracts with Employers Negotiated by A. F. of L. Affiliate.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—Many people in the United States take vacations during the Summer. But these respites from work evidently are not appropriated by the representatives of the International Association of Machinists, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor.

The fact that the arduous efforts of the Machinists' representatives to strengthen the organization and improve the economic conditions of its members are carried on unceasingly is set forth in the July issue of the Machinists' Monthly Journal, which lists 218 new or renewed agreements recently signed.

Many of the contracts carry wage increases, shorter hours, and vacations with pay. Practically all of the contracts stipulate higher rates for overtime work and work on holidays and Sundays than for regular time, and regulations safeguarding seniority are extensively applied.

Eureka, California, was the banner town for the period covered by the Machinists' report, with 57 renewed or new agreements and three renewed memorandums of understanding signed. Peoria, Illinois, comes next, with 18 agreements, five of them with automotive contract shops and nine with machine shops. In Astoria, Oregon, agreements were renewed with 15 automobile dealers and repair shops. In Palo Alto, California, 11 automobile dealers signed up, and in Redwood City, California nine automobile dealers affixed their signatures to the union agreement.

It should be pointed out that the 218 agreements listed do not tell the whole story. Some of them are multiple agreements in which employers associations sign for a number of firms. In San Mateo, California, for example, the agreement with the San Mateo County Motor Car Dealers Association covers 10 firms. In Seattle, Washington, the agreement with the Automotive Maintenance Association includes 75 individual shops. In King County, Washington, the agreement renewed with the King County Dealers Association covers 14 firms, and in Mobile Alabama, the agreement with the Southern Kraft Corporation covers the firm's eight paper mills and one bag factory. If the different firms covered by the multiple agreements were segregated as individual units the number of agreements listed would be increased by more than one hundred.

MARTIN URGES MURPHY TO PROBE CIO VIOLENCE

Claims Property of A. F. of L. Auto Workers Union Has Been Destroyed and Union Members Assaulted.

Detroit, Mich. (AFLWNS).—Violence by the C. I. O. Auto Workers union against the A. F. of L. United Automobile Workers of America was charged in a telegram sent to Frank Murphy, Attorney General of the United States, by the Executive Board of the A. F. of L. affiliate.

The board claimed that the A. F. of L. union's property had been destroyed and union members beaten up by the C. I. O. outfit.

The text of the telegram follows:

"Honorable Frank Murphy, United States Attorney General, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

"The so-called CIO-UAW and its emissaries have by the use of force wantonly destroyed the property and headquarters of local unions of the International Union United Automobile Workers of America affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

"They have intimidated and beaten members of our union as well as innocent bystanders in public business establishments.

"Our people are being assaulted on the public streets and their every right is being contemptuously violated by gangs organized by the CIO.

"The prosecuting attorney of Wayne County has refused to prosecute those individuals known to be guilty of these crimes.

"We call upon you to use your good offices to make an immediate investigation by the Civil Liberties Division of the Department of Justice of these violations and urge prosecution of guilty parties under the Federal statutes.

"Executive Board, International Union United Automobile Workers of America.

"By Homer Martin, President."

ARMY PHOTOGRAPHERS LAND WAGE INCREASE

London, England (AFLWNS).—The Transport and General Workers' Union announced that as the result of negotiations with the War Office the scale of pay of photographers at the Army Experimental Establishment, Shoeburyness, is to be raised by 5s. 8d. on the minimum and 8s. 9d. on the maximum.

Assistant photographers are to have an increase of 6s. 7d. a week.

Wage Earners and Their Dependents Deprived of Adequate Medical Care

Working Men and Women "Do Not Have the Medical or Living Conditions That Would Avert Disease," Woll Tells Senate Committee at Hearing on Senator Wagner's National Health Bill; Holds Financial Assistance From Federal Government is Necessary for Development of Satisfactory Health Program.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Strong support of Government financial aid in developing an adequate health service for the urban and rural masses of the United States was voiced by Matthew Woll, chairman of the American Federation of Labor Committee on Social Security, at the hearings held by the United States Senate Committee on Education and Labor on the National Health Bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York.

The purpose of the Wagner Bill is "to provide for the general welfare by enabling the several States to make more adequate provision for public health, prevention and control of disease, maternal and child health services, construction and maintenance of needed hospitals and health centers, care of the sick, disability insurance, and training of personnel. For grants to the States and administration the bill authorizes an appropriation of $95,250,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1940.

In outlining the terrific burden which disease of all sorts casts upon individuals and families in the lower income groups, the totally inadequate medical care available to them because of their small earnings, and the urgent necessity for aid from the United States Government to remedy these conditions, Mr. Woll said, in part:

"No one is more conscious of the importance of good health than the worker. Upon the maintenance of health depends his job and his living. A period of illness or an injury may mean not only the staggering costs of medical care but the temporary or permanent loss of job and income.

"Inability to pay for adequate medical care has often meant permanent undermining of health—and therefore loss of earning capacity. Life itself, either partially or totally, is tied up with adequate medical care.

"The group I represent, approximately five millions of wage earners and those dependent on them, have never had adequate medical care, so that they were free to have a doctor whenever needed.

"We do not have the medical or the living conditions that would avert disease. When sickness comes we wait, hoping its development may be checked and expense avoided.

"Because of need for economy, children's diseases and afflictions are neglected, mothers are made invalids, premature old age cuts off useful persons' lives, adults in their prime drop at their work.

Low Income Groups Are Hardest Hit

"All these things that workers know in their daily living were confirmed by the revealing studies by the Committee on Costs of Medical Care and by the United States Public Health Service which have made it clear that illness strikes with more devastating force the families of those least able to bear the expense.

"The number of days of disability per person per year from disease, accidents and other impairments for all age groups is materially higher for families on relief than for non-relief families, and for every age group except that under 15 years the number of days of disability is greater for non-relief families with incomes below $1,500 than for those above that figure. The great majority of wage earners receive less than $1,500 per annum.

"Accidents are more frequent and more serious, judged in time of disablement among persons in relief families and non-relief families with incomes below $1,500 than in better income groups. There is more illness and for longer periods among the unemployed than among the employed.

"Obviously there is a close relationship between employment income, and health. Ill health may force an otherwise self-sustaining family to accept relief, and persons on relief or unemployed can afford little either of preventive measures or of care for those needing it. The consequence is plain in the longer duration and more frequent ailments.

Chronic Diseases Smite the Poor

"Chronic diseases lay a heavy burden on the economically weaker families. The National Health Survey of 1935-36 revealed that the relief group suffered 87 per cent more chronic illness than families with incomes over $3,000, and non-relief families with incomes under $1,000 had an illness rate 42 per cent higher than the $3,000 group.

"Over half the persons for whom chronic disease was reported were under 45 years of age. This means temporary or perhaps permanent disability for many wage earners.

"In spite of the fact that more illness is suffered by persons of low incomes, medical expenses are greater for those of better incomes.

"It is clear that the well-to-do are not receiving more than adequate medical service. The average wage-earner's family receives less than it should have of all such services.

Workers Lack Specialized Care

"Surveys have pointed out repeatedly the need for more specialized care such as that for eyes and teeth.

"The limiting factor is income. The family cannot afford more attention for its members, even though the absence of early treatment may mean prolonged or disabling illness later.

"Our labor unions have attempted to help our membership with the problems of sickness. For the year 1937 we paid out over two and a quarter millions in sick benefits, but this was only a drop in the bucket.

"The payment of unemployment

(Continued on Page 2)

Fair International Distribution Of Land and Raw Materials Urged

Harriman Tells Geneva Labor Conference That Lack of Economic Resources Generates World Unrest and Aggressive Wars Between Industrial Nations.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Analyzing some of the basic causes of present world discontent in an address before the recent International Labor Conference at Geneva, Switzerland, Henry I. Harriman, former president of the United States Chamber of Commerce and United States Employers' representative at the Conference declared:

"It is my firm conviction that the basic cause of such unrest is the fact that some nations have an abundance of food and other vital raw materials, while others lack the land on which to grow the necessary crops, and do not have within their borders the raw materials with which to carry on a full and well-balanced economic life."

In the course of his speech Mr. Harriman stated that this analysis led him to the specific suggestion that consideration should be given to President Roosevelt's desire for the holding of a world economic conference. The agenda of such a conference, however, should be carefully prepared and in advance the experts of the various nations should collect the facts which are essential to their conclusions.

"Basically," Mr. Harriman said, "such a conference should be held for the specific purpose of determining how each of the great industrial nations of the world shall, through world trade and the interchange of goods, be assured of an adequate supply of the foodstuffs and the raw materials which it requires for a full and fine economic life.

"It is my firm conviction that through a carefully planned world commerce the basic raw materials which are necessary to a sound economic life must be fairly distributed among the great industrial nations of the world.

"The alternative," he added, "is wars of aggression in which both those who attack and those who defend will suffer equally and western civilization may well crumble under the impact of the blows. If on the other hand the nations of the world meet, as President Roosevelt has requested, with a determination to reach a just agreement I am confident that the serious international problems of today can be adjusted."

In conclusion, Mr. Harriman assured the Conference that America is, from both a selfish and an altruistic standpoint, vitally interested in the maintenance of world peace and will do its part, even at great personal sacrifice, to better world relations.

"Finally," he said, "I favor the early convening of a world conference to assure the widest possible expension of world trade carried out in a well planned and well thought out scheme to give to all peoples their basic and vital necessities. Thus can the United States throw its great weight in favor of world peace. Thus can it aid in international planning of the highest order."

FUNERAL BENEFITS PAID BY BLACKSMITHS UNION

Chicago, Ill. (AFLWNS).—William F. Kramer, secretary-treasurer of the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor, announced that since the inauguration of the Brotherhood's Funeral Fund Benefits in 1920 up to June 1, 1939, beneficiaries of deceased members have been paid $225,923.

These benefits, Mr. Kramer said, were paid to the beneficiaries of deceased members who were in continuous good standing with their dues and assessments.

EDITORIALS

Organization Safeguards Labor's Buying Power

The purchasing power of working men and women depends on their wages. Their living standards are also hinged to the contents of their pay envelopes. One of the major functions of the unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor is to safeguard the buying power of the workers by throwing the strength of unionism around wages and keeping them at decent standards. The success of trade unionism in this field is set forth in the current issue of the Monthly Survey of Business of the American Federation of Labor. In an instructive discussion of "Workers' Buying Power" the Survey says:

"Because wage levels have held, maintenance of workers' buying power has been a strong underlying force for recovery in the 1938 recession and 1939 revival. The income of non-farm workers this year has been well above last year. It has averaged $3,707,000,000 per month as compared to $3,565,000,000 last year in the first five months and $3,792,000,000 in 1937 (same period). Workers' income this year has been 4 per cent above last year.

"Cost of living however is nearly 2 per cent below 1938 so that buying power of non-farm workers has averaged 6 per cent above last year.

"The gain in workers' buying power, together with more liberal spending of other groups, has lifted consumer buying 9 per cent above last year; and because inventories are low and production last year lagged behind buying, this year's 9 per cent gain in sales to consumers has lifted production of consumers goods 10.5 per cent above 1938.

"Thus the strength of workers' buying power, due chiefly to maintenance of wages and partly to increased WPA, relief and unemployment compensation, is responsible for the vigor of retail sales this year, which is cited as a basic factor in the present upturn.

"Workers' buying power in 1939, when adjusted for changes in living costs, is exactly the same as in 1937 (first five months). Total consumer purchases however are still 3 per cent below 1937 probably because other groups are not buying quite so liberally."

Scientists and the Workers

A new note on the attitude that scientists should have toward the masses who perform most of the useful work in the creation of wealth was sounded by Sir Richard Gregory, chairman of the new scientists division of the British Association, and Professor Levy, of Imperial College, at the recent meeting of the association in Manchester, England.

Sir Richard told the meeting that scientists had for too long gone exploring uncharted seas and brought back argosies laden with rich discoveries which had been left on the quay-side of civilization to be misused and abused.

"The scientist cannot absolve himself from responsibilities for the problems of life and labor resulting from creative scientific discovery," he said.

In the United States, scientists (including inventors) have been appropriated on a salary basis by our large industrial corporations and consigned to inventing labor-displacing machinery and methods to be installed for the sole benefit of those who live on interest and dividends regardless of the effect of such inventions and methods on the welfare of the masses without whose physical strength and mental ability very little wealth would be produced.

This grabbing the benefits of applied science by investors was deprecated by Professor Levy, who described at the Manchester meeting the chaotic effect of scientific changes and the problems with which scientists were concerned.

"Science has opened up avenues of employment in new directions," he said, "but it has created unemployment in others it has closed. In creating the chauffeur it has destroyed the cabby.

"It has meant new life to some and misery and undernourishment to others.

"It is entitled to judge efficiency in the way its results have been applied. We are entitled to inquire whether the persistent large-scale unemployment during recent years is an efficient use of the community's man power, whether undernourishment and malnutrition show wrong distribution of foodstuffs which science has helped to create, and whether the transfer of industries mean social efficiency."

Trade Unionism Protects the Pay Envelope

Anti-union employers and the journalistic hirelings often break out with allegations that working men and women do not realize tangible benefits form their membership in unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Included in the more tangible benefits of trade union organization is the wage protection which unions give their members. The extent of this protection is visualized in the current issue of the Monthly Survey of Business of the American Federation of Labor in a discussion of wages during recent months. The Survey says:

"Strong trade unions have maintained wages during the 1938 recession, so that in industry as a whole there were only small declines. Wage increases this spring have brought workers' hourly earnings almost back to the 1937 high point. In 1937, earnings of factory workers reached an average of 66½ cents per hour in the last quarter; the 1938 recession reduced this to 63¼ cents in the third quarter, but by the first half of 1939 earnings were back to 65 cents per hour. Wage cuts this year are giving place to wage increases. In 1938 cuts were reported affecting 376,000 of the 6,900,000 factory workers covered by Labor Department records. Reports in 1939 (to April) showed less than 9,000 receiving cuts and 19,000 receiving increases."

Subsidy For British Agriculture Ignores Land Workers

The tendency of national parliaments dominated by property owning interests to ignore the interests of working men and women in legislation affecting agriculture and industry was recently emphasized in the British House of Commons when the Agricultural Development Bill, popularly called the new agricultural subsidy bill, was under consideration.

Representatives of Organized Labor pointed out that although the bill provides for further subsidies amounting to at least £5,500,000 a year for British oat and barley growers and sheep producers, in all of its thirty clauses there was not a word about the land worker.

Labor spokesmen said that though they were anxious to establish the agricultural industry on a sure foundation, they opposed a bill which ignored the necessity of improving the lot of the agricultural workers. Although brought forward by the Government for the alleged purpose of improving agriculture, the bill handed out millions of pounds in subsidies to British farmers, but contained no mention of wages, housing, social amenities or any of the needs of the agricultural laborers.

Constructive Remedies For Unemployment

Organized Labor in Scotland is confronted with the same anomaly that appears in all industrial countries—more jobless workers despite increased industrial activity, which is undoubtedly caused, in part at least, by the constant installation of machinery that displaces workers and enables those who retain their jobs to increase their output.

To meet this problem in a constructive way, the Scottish Trades Union Congress at its last annual conference held at Rothesay, Scotland, urged the immediate shortening of the work week and a large increase of products and services having recognized social values.

On the subject of the forty hours' week, the Congress said:

"That this Congress, in view of the latest increase in the unemployment figures and the general intensification which has characterized all forms of production in industry, instructs the General Council to take immediate steps to influence the Government to bring into being the Forty Hours' Week on a national basis without reduction in wages, together with the most drastic restriction and regulation of overtime."

Turning to the problem of continued and increasing unemployment, the Congress declared:

"That this Congress, reflecting the anxiety of the trade unions and of the people generally over the continued existence of large scale unemployment, calls for more determined action by the Government to remedy unemployment and its accompanying social evils. Congress expresses alarm at the fact that the figures of unemployment continue to rise even in the midst of intense industrial activity due to the armaments programme and provision for national defense, thus denoting retrogression in normal industrial activity, and foreshadowing an industrial depression more severe than the country has ever experienced.

"Congress, while appreciating that unemployment is an economic evil inherent in a capitalist system of production, nevertheless believes that bold action by the Government now could materially restrict the magnitude of the problem. It urges the Government to act without regard to private business interests where these are in conflict with the public good, and demands that it apply the same concentration to the production of goods and services of permanent social value to the community as it does to production for the Defense Services."

The Transient Unemployed Problem

The physical inability of large numbers of the transient unemployed to perform hard manual work and the difficulty of providing work suitable for them is a problem that confronts administrators of work relief funds in every country.

Frequently this lack of physical strength is due to the fact that the transients have been denied opportunity to earn the necessities of life and proper nourishment while living in idleness forced upon them. Definite proof of this condition was given in a recent statement by Hon. Norman Hipel, Labor Minister of the Province of Ontario, Canada.

Mr. Hipel reported that the experience of Ontario with transient labor has been "most disappointing" for the reason that the majority of those registered for heavy farm work were found to be physically incapable of doing the work usually required of hired help on farms.

With regard to the physical condition of the transient jobless Mr. Hipel said that of 116 who had recently applied for heavy farm work only 61 were sufficiently well nourished to pass the medical examination, and out of that number 20 were not even able to do light farm work.

A SUCCESSFUL PUBLIC UTILITY

(From the Canadian Congress Journal, Official Magazine of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada)

For the past 17 years Toronto, the second largest city in the Dominion, has owned and operated its own street car service. Buying out a private company in 1921, and rebuilding practically the entire system, cost the city at that time over $44,000,000. In addition to providing for extensions and keeping the system modernized in every way, this debt has been reduced each year until it now stands at a little under $22,000,000, approximately half the original indebtedness. Provision of interest, reduction of debt, and other fixed charges annually absorb almost two-fifths of the total gross revenue which last year amounted to $11,000,000.

The system is operated by a three man commission, of which Mr. S. J. McMaster, who for a number of terms was President of the Toronto District Labor Council, is Vice-Chairman.

The employes of the Commission are strongly organized in the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes of America and the most amicable relationships prevail between officers of the union and the management. By the collective agreement entered into last year, hourly rated employes obtained one week's holiday with pay.

The 17th annual statement of the Commission recently issued, directing attention to the progressive reduction of debt, says: "The exceptionally high interest rates continue to make the annual fixed charges a very heavy burden on the transportation system." Were it not for this, it is apparent that conditions of employes or service to the public could be still further improved.

The system carries approximately 150,000,000 passengers per year at an average fare of 6.175 cents, which is claimed to be one of the lowest fares on this continent. There is no extra charge for night fares and transfers are given free between all routes within the city. The longest direct trip of the system is 12 miles and the longest single route 10.04 miles. The transportation commission operates both city and interurban lines which jointly cover 1,150 route miles and on which it operates 926 street cars and 243 motor buses and coaches.

This splendid record has been achieved in face of constantly growing opposition from automobiles, the number of these registered for the City of Toronto for 1937 being 117,998, which works out to an average of 5.5 persons to an automobile. Toronto has just cause to take pride in its publicly owned and operated transportation system.

British Labor Wins Demand That Landlords Build Air-Raid Shelters For Tenants

London, England (AFLWNS).—The British Government accepted amendments to the Civil Defense bill submitted by the representatives of Organized Labor making it compulsory for landlords of blocks of flats to prepare shelter schemes against air raids and to complete them unless more than half the inhabitants object, the cost to be charged to the tenants in increased rent spread over ten years.

The Government also accepted the Labor amendments giving more power to local authorities to construct shelters on highways and safeguarding the rights of workers under the Workmen's Compensation Acts.

NEW YORK WPA SETS UP ADULT EDUCATION PLAN

Supervised Playgrounds for Underprivileged Also Included in Recreation Program.

New York, N. Y. (AFLWNS).—The education and recreation activities that were available to the general public and the school children in New York City during previous summers, through the joint cooperation of the WPA and the Board of Education, will again be at their disposal this year, according to an announcement by Lieut. Col. Brehon Somervell, WPA Administrator for this area.

"The program of activities and services gives promise of being the best thus far offered," Col. Somervell said. "The adult education program will offer a schedule of courses that should again make this undertaking the largest of its kind in the world, with a registration greater than at any college summer session. We confidently anticipate more than 50,000 adults to participate."

The recreation program sponsored by the WPA visions using all available school property, including buildings and playgrounds, to afford children in underprivileged and overcrowded areas an opportunity for supervised, constructive play. The Child Nutrition Project will serve hot lunches daily to the thousands of needy children included in the program.

The Nursery School and Parent Education project will continue during the summer to serve needy preschool children in all-day activities, and several hundred homebound children will be given instruction at home so that they can keep abreast of children of their age in regular classes.

Another important feature of the summer program will be the Remedial Program in Secondary Schools, which will provide tutorial assistance to 10,000 high school girls and boys to prepare them for examinations in subjects in which they received "conditions." Last summer, more than 45 per cent of the high school youth that took advantage of these tutorial services were successful in eliminating their "conditions."

43,000 BRITISH WORKERS OBTAIN INCREASED WAGES

Members of Engineering Trades Add Two Shillings to Weekly Pay Envelopes.

London, England (AFLWNS).—In accordance with a decision reached by the Engineering Trades Joint Council, the wages of about 43,000 workers in Government engineering establishments have been increased by 2 shillings a week.

The action of the council was taken on the application of the representative of the workers' side that the 2 shillings a week wage increase recently applied to the general engineering industry should also be applied in Government engineering works.

The increased pay was made retroactive to June 5.

The 2 shillings rise was for adults. Apprentices and other youths will receive proportionate increases.

CANADIAN SEAMEN GAIN INCREASED WAGE RATES

Quebec, Can. (AFLWNS).—Under the agreement negotiated by the Canadian Seamen's Union with the C. N. Steamships Company affecting crews of the company's ten vessels operating out of Canadian Atlantic ports, those employed in the stewards department will receive $5 more per month and all other ratings an extra $7.50 per month.

PHILADELPHIA SUGAR WORKERS STRIKE ENDS

Philadelphia, Pa. (AFLWNS).—The strike called by Sugar Refinery Workers Union No. 20225, A. F. of L. affiliate, against three Philadelphia sugar refineries was ended after 12 days duration by an agreement composing the differences which caused the walkout. The strike started over union demands for seniority rights and a 10 per cent increase in the basic rate, and employer demands for a 15 per cent wage reduction in the new agreement. The settlement adjusted senioritiy rights and left wages unchanged.

The strike involved 2,700 members of the A. F. of L. union employed by the Pennsylvania Sugar Company, the Franklin Sugar Refining Company, and the W. J. McCahan Sugar Refining and Molasses Company.

EMPLOYMENT RISES IN PENNSYLVANIA

Harrisburg, Pa. (AFLWNS).—The Bureau of Research and Information of the Department of Labor and Industry announced that the largest gains of the year in employment and pay rolls in Pennsylvania industries were reported by 6,929 industrial firms during May.

"Employment," the bureau said, "was up 6 per cent; pay rolls, 2.8 per cent; and working time, 8.7 per cent. These gains were effected in spite of slackened activity in manufacturing, and were largely the result of improvement in construction, retail trade, public utilities, service industries, and particularly the resumption of activity in bituminous coal mines.

"Although each month's pay roll level for 1939 has continued to show gains over the corresponding month of last year, May marked the first month since November, 1937, in which employment showed a year-to-year improvement."

FULL WAGES GRANTED BRITISH MILITIAMEN

London, England (AFLWNS).—The Midlands firm of Messrs. Alfred Williamson, Ashton-under-Lyme, ticket printers, has told its 250 employees that they will receive full wages while undergoing military training under the new Act, territorial training, or while at camp.

John Williamson, speaking for the company, said: "The firm feels this is the least it can do. We have promised our employees full pay, less whatever Army allowance they may be receiving, during the whole time they are away, however long it may be.

"We have taken this step as a gesture to all employers in the country, and we hope they will follow suit."

METAL WORKERS UNIONS HELP CZECH REFUGEES

London, Eng. (AFLWNS).—J. C. Little, president of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, reported that the British Section of the Metal Workers International, with which the Amalgamated is affiliated, had undertaken responsibility for 200 Czech refugees, Finland for 100, Norway for 150 and France for 400.

NEW UNIONS IN WINNIPEG

Winnipeg, Can. (AFLWNS).—A new local chartered by the International Union of the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and soft Drink Workers of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, has been established here.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, A. F. of L. affiliate, has also formed Local No. 679 in Winnipeg.

SIX-YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS OF CCC WORKERS LISTED

Fechner Says 2,500,000 Jobless Have Completed Many Conservation Projects of National Importance; Contributed $500,000,000 to Their Dependents.

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Washington, D. C.—A progress report covering the work output of the Civilian Conservation Corps during the six years that the Corps had been in operation up to April 1, last, was made public by Robert Fechner, Director of the CCC.

The report provides a full statistical record of all work completed by the 2,500,000 young men, war veterans, Indians and territorials who have labored for varying periods of time in the camps.

All told, enrollees under the experienced technical direction of the conservation services of the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments, engaged in more than 150 types of work and advanced a nationwide conservation program which embraced projects in every state of the Union and in Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Hawaii.

The report shows that the Corps completed a tremendous amount of work in such fields as the reforestation of waste lands, the improvement of timber stands to stimulate rapid and healthy growth; the protection of timbered areas from forest fires, tree attacking diseases and insects and other forest pests; the improvement and development of forests and parks; the improvement and protection of farm lands endangered by soil erosion, and the rehabilitation of drainage ditches in agricultural areas; the improvement of grazing conditions in the national forests and on the public domain; water conservation and flood control and the improvement of conditions for big game, migratory birds and other forms of wild life.

Included among the many projects completed by the Corps were the planting of 1,741,000,000 trees, the construction of 104,000 miles of truck trails or minor roads, the erection of 71,692 miles of telephone lines, the construction of 40,000 bridges, the construction of more than 45,000 buildings, the reduction of fire hazards over about 2,000,000 acres, the building of 4,700,000 check dams in gullies, the construction of approximately 16,000,000 rods of fence, the improvement of 3,312,498 acres of forest stands, the construction of 5,390 impounding and large diversion dams, the development of 20,084 springs, wells, waterholes and small reservoirs and the expenditure of about 9,000,000 man days fighting forest fires and on fire prevention and fire presuppression activities.

"Enrollees in the CCC over the last six years and three months," Mr. Fechner said, "allocated to dependents out of their basic cash allowances of $30 a month, an aggregate of more than $500,000,000."

A. F. OF L. INSURANCE AGENTS MAP PROGRAM

Annual Conference Supports Pending Negotiations with Two Large Companies.

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—The second annual conference of the Industrial and Ordinary Insurance Agents Council sponsored by the American Federation of Labor outlined an intensive organization program at its sessions held in the A. F. of L. Building here.

Those participating in the conference included delegates from South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, North Carolina, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and the District of Columbia.

Negotiations in progress between the council and the Home Beneficial Association, of Richmond, Va., and Peoples Life Insurance Co., of Washington, D. C., were unanimously approved by the conference which endorsed a proposal to further the signing of an agreement with the American Federation of Labor by pledging the council's full economic strength to successfully terminate negotiations with these companies.

JEFFERSON CITY BAKERS ADVERTISE UNION GOODS

Jefferson City, Mo. (AFLWNS).—Bakery Workers Local Union No. 399 of Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, believes in telling people where union bakery products can be purchased.

In an advertisement in the Missouri Trades Unionist, published here, carrying the heading, "Jefferson City Union Bakeries," the union presents the following information and suggestions:

"The union men and their families and friends of organized labor of this city and vicinity are requested to patronize only union bakeries as listed in the following advertisement.

"These shops are strictly union and sanitary in every respect. These union shops are: Boyd's Electric Maid Bakery, Hammond Baking Co., Jefferson City Baking Co.

"When you buy bakery products ask for and demand they be union made. Stop and think!

"Are they made in Jefferson City? If not, why not?"

OHIO UNIONIST NAMED SAFETY INVESTIGATOR

Columbus, Ohio (AFLWNS).—Arnold Bill, of North Olmsted, vice president of the Ohio State Federation of Labor and secretary-treasurer of the Ohio State Council of Carpenters, has been appointed a special investigator in the Division of Safety and Hygiene of the Industrial Commission. The appointment was announced by Commissioner Will T. Blake.

Wage Earners and Their Dependents Deprived of Adequate Medical Care

(Continued from Page 1)

compensation to aid such persons as are available for work seems to emphasize the plight of the sick workers whose need for income is even greater.

National Plan Held Necessary

"Voluntary plans cannot meet the problem of providing adequate medical care for all the people. There must be national planning and appropriate legislation. Plans must be national in scope and must provide for the physical facilities for medical care, the financial resources for assuring social security for the sick as well as adequate professional services.

"The cost of medical care should be lowered so that it is within the reach of that large part of the population which has less than $1,500 income.

"The hospital facilities and available professional services should be distributed more equitably so that there is not such competition in some areas that the doctor and nurse cannot make a reasonable income while other areas are left entirely without hospitals or expert medical service within easy call.

Government Assistance Is Imperative

"We recognize several complications. The average cost of medical care would not be staggering to the family of average income. Unfortunately the burden is not reflected in average costs. A serious illness may equal or exceed the family's income, and many a family runs hopelessly into debt to meet the heavy expenditures ill health forces on it suddenly. Even if costs are lowered to a minimum many families could not finance illness.

"There will need to be government assistance for any satisfactory program. The American Federation of Labor is thoroughly in sympathy with extending our national health program."

FIRST DIVIDEND PAID BY MILK COOPERATIVE

New York, N. Y. (AFLWNS).—The Consumer-Farmer Milk Cooperative, described as the only city-wide milk cooperative between consumers and dairy farmers in the East, announced its first dividend, amounting to 1½ per cent of total purchases by consumers with one-third of the cooperative's surplus divided among the farmer members.

For the period covering the first nine months of the cooperative's existence the farmers who supply the milk received a return of approximately $1,300 above their regular payments. The consumers, who pay the lowest prevailing market price for their milk, will get the remainder.

The Price the Workers Pay For Their Jobs

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The need for more adequate legislation requiring employers to install all up-to-date mechanisms for protecting employes against fatal and non-fatal injuries and occupational disease is revealed in the current report of the Industrial Commission of Ohio.

The list of non-fatal injuries sounds like the report from a battle between the armies of nations at war. For the month covered by the report there were 13,324 non-fatal injury and occupational disease claims filed with the commission. Included in the list were 56 amputations, 8 asphyxiations, 820 burns and scalds, 2,324 crushes and bruises, 7 concussions, 5,444 cuts and lacerations, 756 fractures, 1,630 punctures, 2,005 sprains and strains, and 42 dislocations.

Practically all of these injuries could undoubtedly be avoided by compelling employers to provide the best obtainable protection against accidents.

Canadian Unionists Win Law Protecting Them From Discrimination by Employers

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

Just before adjournment the recent session of the Canadian Parliament passed an amendment to the criminal code which makes it illegal for employers to discriminate in any way in terms of employment against members of trade unions and prohibits intimidation or conspiracies directed against employes because of their membership in trade unions.

The text of the amendment which Parliament adopted reads:

"Any employer or his agent, whether a company or corporation, who wrongfully and without lawful authority

(a) refuses to employ or dismisses from his employment any person for the sole reason that such person is a member of a lawful trade union or of a lawful association or combination of workmen or employes formed for the purpose of advancing in a lawful manner their interests and organized for their protection in the regulation of wages and conditions of work;

(b) seeks by intimidation, threat, or loss of position or employment or by actual loss of position or employment, or by threatening or imposing any pecuniary penalty, to compel workman or employes to abstain from belonging to such a trade union or to such an association or combination to which they have a lawful right to belong; or

(c) conspires, combines, agrees or arranges with any other employer or his agent to do any of the things mentioned in the preceding paragraphs;

is guilty of an offense punishable on indictment or on summary conviction before two justices, and liable on conviction, if an individual, to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars or to three months' imprisonment, with or without hard labor, and, if a company or corporation, to a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars."

STREET RAILWAY WAGE ARBITRATORS NAMED

Union and Transit Company in District of Columbia Agree to Abide by Decision of Three-Man Board.

Washington, D. C. (AFLWNS).—The wage and hour controversy between Local 689 of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes of America, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and the Capital Transit Company, operating street cars and buses in the District of Columbia and suburban areas, will be settled by arbitration.

The management of the company asked that the closed shop question be submitted to arbitration, but the union members refused to do so.

The union selected Charlton Ogburn, A. F. of L. attorney, as its arbitrator. The company announced the designation of Edmund L. Jones, an attorney, to handle its side of the case. Mr. Ogburn and Mr. Jones will select a third arbitrator. Both the union and the company have agreed to abide by the arbitration award.

The company's contract with the union, which claims a membership of 3,100, expired June 30.

DEATH OF J. W. HIXSON

Veteran of Ohio Labor Movement Passed Away at Piqua—Was 76 Years Old.

(From the July Quarterly Bulletin of the Ohio State Federation of Labor)

Saturday morning, April 1, there passed away in Piqua Memorial Hospital, Brother Joel W. Hixson, 76 years of age, one of the organizers of the Ohio State Trades and Labor Assembly in 1884, which was the original name of the Ohio State Federation of Labor. His death was caused by injuries received in January in an automobile accident.

Brother Hixson was born in Piqua May 31, 1862, and had lived there practically all of his life. He was a charter member of Theatrical Stage Employes Union No. 155 of that city, in which organization and others he was active during his long and useful life.

Brother Hixson was a regular attendant at the conventions of the Ohio State Federation of Labor as a delegate from his local union and the Central Labor Union of Piqua and well known to the trades unionists of Ohio as one of firm faith in the labor movement and an individual of character. As the Nestor of the Piqua labor movement he is mourned and his loss deeply felt."

CALIF. EMPLOYERS HIT FOR CHISELING WAGES

Sacramento, Calif. (AFLWNS).—During May $4,297.68 was collected in underpaid minimum wages from wage gypping employers and returned to the workers through the medium of Division of Industrial Welfare of the California Industrial Relations Department, according to the report of the chief of the division. "This amount," the report said, "affected the earnings of 258 women and minors."

In the fruit and vegetable canning industry, additional wage adjustments amounting to $9,525.04 was collected from employers who imposed illegally low wages on their employes. This amount was added to the earnings of 2,584 women and minors.

PAID HOLIDAYS PLAN ADVANCES IN ENGLAND

By A. F. of L. Weekly News Service.

The movement for holidays with pay for working men and women is marching ahead in Great Britain as well as in the United States.

The progress toward this goal in Britain was stressed by Ernest Brown, British Minister of Labor, in an address before the recent International Labor Conference at Geneva, Switzerland. He told the delegates the British government is determined that all workers in that country should have paid holidays and that any further action necessary to achieve this object will be taken in due course.

Representatives of British organized labor interpreted Mr. Brown's statement as a pledge to carry out the recommendations of the British holidays with pay committee that after a period of voluntary effort legislation should be introduced to fill up any gaps.

115,317 OHIO AGED GIVEN ASSISTANCE

Columbus, Ohio (AFLWNS).—Needy aged persons numbering 115,317 were given assistance during 1938 by the State Division of Aid for the Aged.

Tom McCaw, chief of the division, said this was an all-time high in the number of indigent aged receiving aid in Ohio.

The average payment per recipient for the month was $22.54, with total grants amounting to $2,599,351.